

The Progressive Farmer.

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Raleigh, N. C.

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THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, Raleigh, N. C.

RALEIGH, N. C., MAY 13, 1890.

This paper entered as second-class matter at the Post Office in Raleigh, N. C.

The Progressive Farmer is the official Organ of the N. C. Farmers' Association and N. C. State Farmers' Alliance.

Do you want your paper changed to another office? State the one at which you have been getting it.

Do you want your communication published? If so, give us your real name and your postoffice.

Our friends in writing to any of our advertisers, will favor us by mentioning the fact that they saw the advertisement in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

The date on your label tells you when your time is out.

A SMALL FAVOR ASKED.

Will the judges, members of the State Senate and members of the Lower House who have refused to accept free passes from the different railroad corporations in the State be so kind as to drop us a postal card to that effect? We would appreciate this little act of kindness very much.

"THE WATCAMAN ON THE WALL."

THE Nashville Argonaut of a recent date sounds a note of warning. It says there is a deep laid plan to entrap the Alliance and demagogues are to use the organization to further their own selfish ends, if they can. We would be glad if the Argonaut would give its reasons for this belief. Who are they, Mr. Argonaut? It is generally admitted that the membership of the Alliance run the affair, and shape its course be it wise or unwise. The members of the Alliance know nothing of these political affiliations it speaks of. The leaders of the Alliance have positively denied any knowledge of the "dicker" mentioned. So the Argonaut and a few other people who are easily alarmed must be responsible for the trouble. If the leaders of the order should undertake such a thing it would be ruinous to themselves individually. The "Republican leader" which the Argonaut has unearthed in Nash county must be a Solomon, and if there is a "Democratic leader" down that way who is of equal calibre they should be made general managers of their respective parties. They could make a success of the business we are sure.

The plans of the Alliance are no secret. They have been published time and again. The Argonaut or anybody else can see them at any time.

The Alliance does not seek to create a third party, neither does it seek to jumble all of the parties together and make a new one. The plan has always been to get relief through whichever party that may be in power at the time the demands are made. If certain laws are to be passed in North Carolina or Georgia, it would be expected that the Democratic party would pass these laws from the fact that it is the dominant party and has more members in the Senate and Legislature. But, of course the Republican members need not cast a strict party vote. In Kansas or Massachusetts the Alliance will expect the Republican Senate and Legislature to grant relief as they have the legislative power, and so on to the end. At present the Republican party, on a strict party vote, would have to carry any measures through our National legislative bodies. Now to illustrate: Two years ago the Alliance demanded the passage of a railroad commission in North Carolina; also other measures. The bill was defeated. Who defeated it? Well, the Alliance knows and the Alliance expects to defeat those who defeated it. The Alliance knows its enemies by their ear-marks. How will we do it? Simply by letting those smart Alecks stay at home hereafter, no matter what party they belonged to. If the Argonaut hires a man to do some work and pays him, and he fails to do the work, neither the editor's religion nor his political views hinder him from discharging or refusing to hire that man again. So with the farmers of our State. They employed a lot of men to do a job of work in Raleigh eighteen months ago. A part of them were faithful; some were not. The

Alliance is not bound to employ them again, and it will not. It will give a part of them a rest. The Alliance don't think they earned their salt, that is the trouble. Some of our Congressmen need a little recreation. If they faint by the wayside, we will let them stay at home hereafter. It is better to discharge sorry hands and hunt up some good ones, even though the "crop is in the grass." We are just going to "rubbish" up a little, blow some of the chaff out of the wheat, etc.

No, Mr. Argonaut, we are not going to do anything wrong if we can help it. You may draw the Constitution of the United States on us, and if you will show that we haven't the right to discharge worthless laborers, then we will submit and try to pay the cost. But for the present we hold that your proceedings are entirely illegal.

SIDE ISSUES.

SEVERAL substitutes for the Sub-Treasury plan have been offered. But our people should be careful how they bite at the bait thrown out. The strongest advocates of the bill have said time and again that they would accept anything better. But has such been offered? Senator Stanford has presented a bill for the government to loan money on real estate at a low rate of interest. No permanent relief would come from this. We want something that would last. It is plain that those who are not in debt would receive no benefit from that arrangement. This is simply a side issue, if we be allowed to so term it. Such men as Senator Stanford hope to pull over a portion of the people, especially in the Northwest, and get us divided. "United we stand, divided we fall." That is the game. We must stick to the Sub-Treasury bill or something better. But some of our Senators are not well up in logic. It would be poor economy for us to ask the government to tax us and then loan the money back to us at even a low rate of interest. If it be loaned at one per cent, we would just be one per cent poorer. No, thank you, Bro. Stanford, the "same old game" won't work any longer, we mean business. There has been too much of this high tax business already; too much money-lending. Let us keep our money when we get it; protect us from robbers, is all we ask.

VICTORY ASSURED.

AS will be seen by a letter from Mr. W. E. Jackson, of Augusta, Ga., and from a clipping from the Augusta Chronicle, on our 6th page, the cotton bagging problem is solved. Our State business agent has a sample of this bagging, and it is hard to distinguish from jute, and though this was made from the fibre of stalks which had stood in the fields all winter, it is strong and sound. The color is a little darker than that of jute, but otherwise any one except an expert would pronounce it to be jute bagging. But it will be impossible to make it for the crop of this season, even if the factories were built for the fibre cannot be had until the cotton crop is made and gathered. So we must prepare to use cotton bagging or some substitute to cover the present crop. By next season millions of yards of cotton-stalk fibre bagging will be ready for use. Mr. Jackson will not permit any monopoly to control its manufacture and so it will be a great boon to the farmers of the cotton belt. Three cheers for Mr. W. E. Jackson!

LETTER FROM MR. JACKSON.

A FEW days ago we wrote Mr. W. E. Jackson, at Augusta, Ga., asking him for any and all information in regard to his plan for converting the bark of the cotton stalk into bagging which would be of interest to our readers. The following letter from him will show that he is sure of success. The clipping referred to will be found on the sixth page of this issue:

AUGUSTA, Ga., May 5, 1890.
J. L. RAMSEY, Raleigh, N. C.:

DEAR SIR:—Your esteemed and valued favor of the first inst. received. I enclose you a corrected clipping from the Augusta Chronicle which is true so far as it relates to me and what I have accomplished.

Just at present I am not in a position to say anything more for publication than what is contained in the clipping.

When this new industry is developed it will open up a field of advancement and progress that our people have been sleeping over all their life. I do not propose to confine it to the cotton stalk alone (that, however, is a big thing) but my machines for utilizing the cotton stalk will not lie idle like the cotton gin, until another crop is made, but can be adjusted so as to utilize many of the other fibres now to be found in the South.

I may visit your city this summer and will be pleased to call on you and discuss the question at length.

Sincerely thanking you and Col. Polk for your good wishes in the matter, and with assurances of my highest regards, believe me,

Yours respectfully,

WM. E. JACKSON.

A WORD ABOUT ADVERTISING.

THE Durham Sun of a recent date contained a well-written and sensible article about Cheap John advertising from which we extract the following:

"Our State press appears to be prospering, but it could be made more so if strict business principles were pursued.

"Things have come to a pretty pass when an advertising agent somewhere North, can sit in his cushioned chair, and a \$50,000 diamond on his bosom, and dictate to so many of our papers just the rates they shall insert an advertisement for. They will send notices set in small type, or oily tongued agents will come around who have been editors and know all about the business, and if a fellow hasn't grit, they will pull the publisher into taking it for about half what his legitimate rates ought to be."

That is a good picture of a number of our State papers. It is time for a radical change along this line. About two months ago THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER raised its rates and now even the advertising agent with the \$50,000 diamond has no terrors for it. We did lose some money by it at first, but hope to come out all right. When the agents sent \$50 worth of advertising and offered to pay \$10 or \$12 for it we declined with thanks. Since then some have been sent at regular rates and no questions asked. Many strictly local papers will allow some agents to talk them into taking their advertisements at much lower rates than they charge their local business men for the same space. THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER has never done that. No, patent medicine agents and other oily tongued fellows are in the wrong pew when they try to beat THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. We are not able to run a charity concern, but if we cut rates with anybody it will be home advertisers, not with Northern millionaires, as many papers do, we think.

COL. L. L. POLK.

Col. Polk, at this writing, is somewhere in Texas, but in his office in Washington, D. C., are piles of letters, sent to his address, by his admiring friends not only in N. C., but all over the South and West. To give you an idea I will give you short extracts:

"Your speech just read. The American Senators never heard such an array of facts before." "Your speech shows that you are the right man in the right place."

"The people of North Carolina are justly proud of you."

"We want you in the Senate."

"We want you in Congress."

"We want you for Governor."

"The people want you to fill the highest place in their gift."

"You have shown yourself a statesman ranking with Clay, Calhoun and Webster."

Now, my brethren, I want you to understand that it will simply be impossible for Col. Polk to answer all these letters. I know he would do so if he could. I know I cannot get the time to tender by letter his thanks to you for your kind expressions. He will read them all and I know he will be nerved to go forward in the right, battling for you, as in the past, but with renewed energy. I write this so you will know why your personal letters are unanswered.

OLD FOGY.

HON. B. H. BUNN.

A Constituent Asks Him Certain Questions Upon Public Measures.

[Special Cor. of State Chronicle.]

Our Representative, Hon. B. H. Bunn, in an interview published in a recent issue of the State Chronicle, gave his views as to certain prominent questions now before the public. But he failed to make himself clear. We desire to have unequivocal answers to each of the following questions:

(1) Are you in favor of the bill introduced by Senator Vance in the United States Senate, known as the "Sub-Treasury Bill," for the relief of the agriculturists?

(2) Do you oppose the present national banking system?

(3) Are you in favor of the free and unlimited coinage of silver?

(4) Are you in favor of a railroad commission for the regulation of freights and tariffs on the railroads in North Carolina?

A plain answer to each of the above questions is desired by your CONSTITUENTS.

NOT MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE.

The agriculturists of the Twenty-sixth Congressional district of the State of Pennsylvania have issued a call for the holding of a non-partisan convention to nominate candidates for Congress and both branches of the State Legislature. The call is signed by over 1,800 farmers and bids fair to work a revolution in the politics of that part of the State.

To those who blame the leaders of the Alliance for creating a desire on the part of the farmers for reform along certain lines this action on the part of 1,800 Pennsylvania farmers should be of more than ordinary importance. A large portion of these

Pennsylvania farmers do not belong to any farmers' organization. At the time this call was made there was not a member of the Alliance in that State. The lesson it teaches is that all farmers feel the need of more and better legislation, and that they are going to work to get it whether organized or not. But the Alliance banner has been planted in Pennsylvania and the good work will continue. The farmers of that State will make it not for the corrupt demagogues who have been "misrepresenting" them.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

* Read the ruling by President Carr in this issue and other important Alliance notices.

* Don't you fail to read Chairman Macune's speech before the Senate Committee on Agriculture. It will do you good.

* The commencement exercises at Oak Ridge Institute will be held on May 25th, 26th and 27th. Address by A. J. Montague, Esq., of Danville, Va. Thanks for invitation.

* Be sure to read the advertisements of the Scottish Carolina Timber and Land Company, Leaksville Woolen Mills, H. W. Hubbard and the U. S. Buggy and Cart Company.

The friends of Bro. W. H. Rand, of Rands' Mills, N. C., will no doubt be pleased to learn that he has information to the effect that a patent has been granted him on a harrow that he has recently invented.

* Mrs. Mary A. Rigsbee, aged 66 years, was run over by the Raleigh-bound train on the Keyville road Friday. It would be well for everybody to keep off railroads and especially old or deaf people.

* Josephus Daniels, Esq., of Raleigh, will deliver the literary address at the annual commencement at Graham College on the 29th and 30th of May. Many thanks for the beautiful invitation card and programme.

* Bro. J. F. Bell, of the State Business Agency, went over to Louisville last Friday and will spend a few days with his many friends in Franklin county. He is overworked and needs a little rest and recreation.

* The second annual commencement at Augusta Seminary will take place on the 13th, 14th and 15th of this month. Rev. J. B. Shearer, D. D., President of Davidson College, will deliver the literary address. We return thanks for invitation to be present.

* Mrs. Florence Olmsted, of Douglas, Kansas, has just issued a new song book containing twenty appropriate songs for opening and closing Alliances, Wheels and Unions, and for public labor demonstrations, set to old and familiar tunes, so that all may sing. The price for this beautiful book is low, and in the reach of all. Single copy 10 cents, or 12 copies for \$1.00. Send to Mrs. Florence Olmsted, Douglas, Kansas, or to J. H. McDowell, Nashville, Tenn.

* We are indebted to a Raleigh lady for a sure cure for hog cholera. The lady in question is not a farmer but is a practical woman and thoroughly reliable. She says to confine the hogs and allow them no water but that in which a quantity of cherry bark has been steeped. The quantity of bark at first may be small as the hogs will not like the bitter taste, but starve them to it and before long they will drink the water freely. This, she says, will not only cure them after they are sick, but will prevent their taking the disease. Try it.

* The Davis School will be removed from La Grange, N. C., to Winston-Salem. The School will be located on large, beautiful grounds a short distance from town. Handsome buildings will be completed by the opening of the session next September. The equipments of the entire institution will be first-class in every particular. Davis School is one of the largest military schools in the South. Many sections of the United States are represented every year. The new location of the school is not surpassed anywhere. It is in a beautiful country famous for health.

JOURNALISTIC.

What the Knights of the Quill are Doing.

The Concord Daily Standard has been received. Bros. Cook and Harris have made the weekly Standard a success and no doubt the Daily will meet with hearty support.

The Roanoke Patron, published at Potomac, N. C., has entered on the 12th volume. It is the organ of the Grange in that part of the State. We wish you a long life and greater prosperity, Bro. Beale.

Mrs. Isabel Mallon, of New York, has been added to the staff of the Ladies' Home Journal, of Philadelphia. She will have charge of the fashion columns of that excellent journal.

The North Carolina Farmer, of this city, will celebrate its 14th anniversary this month by an enlargement and change of name. In the future it will be known as the "Southern Farmer." Mr. Jas. H. Ennis, who has always had editorial charge, will be assisted by Mr. P. C. Ennis, who will assume the business management. We wish it continued success.

BEN BUTLER ON THE FARMERS' MOVEMENT.

At the annual dinner of the Butler Club, of Boston, Thursday evening, Gen. Butler made a lengthy speech which was devoted almost wholly to the subject of the present deplorable financial condition of the farmers of the country. He referred to the Farmers' Alliance, with its formidable proportions, which if held together will be irresistible. It claims to be non-political, but, if successful, it will destroy both political parties and become a political party itself.

The General compared the condition of the farmer as a workman with that of a carpenter, showing that while the farmer's profits would be \$112.50 for his crop, the carpenter for a less expenditure of time and energy, would get \$960, figuring upon the basis of the present value of corn within twenty-four hours' ride of Chicago.

We have no faith in Gen. Butler, and can't see how any one can admire him unless it is on account of his shrewdness. But nobody can doubt his having a big head. For this reason alone we give, in part, his view of the matter.

But Gen. Butler is mistaken about it, destroying both political parties and becoming a party itself. It probably would be easier to destroy both parties than to reform them and it could be done more quickly, but that would hardly be in keeping with our republican form of government. If the Alliance should destroy both parties and set itself up as a "farmers' monarchy," we would no longer have a republic. We only hope to put those belonging to each party who are antagonistic to our interests to flight and then take a rest.

AMONG THE ALLIANCES.

What the Organization is Doing Throughout the Country.

The Robesonian says that an Alliance warehouse will be built at Lumberton this summer.

The co-operative store of the Wilcox county (Ga.) Alliance at Rochelle is doing a good business.

Dorchester, Maryland, County Alliance was organized on the 26th of April with six Sub-Alliances.

The farmers of Massachusetts are going to organize. They can't stand it any longer. So says the Boston Post.

The Alliance store at Graham, Ga., was burned last week—loss \$2,500. No insurance. The fire is thought to be the work of an incendiary.

Two hundred and fifty Alliances were organized in Nebraska during the month of February. The membership now is nearly 40,000.

The Alliance men of Worth and Irwin counties, Ga., purpose erecting a cotton warehouse as soon as their co-operative store is completed.

The Alliance men in Colorado have an investment and loaning feature. It gives members a chance to borrow money at a low rate of interest and pay off the cut throat mortgages.

The members of Rolling House Alliance, No. 311, in Kansas, have resolved that they will use no more coffee after the first of May until the price is reduced to 20 cents per pound or less, and ask all members in the country to help them to break the trust in this way. It would be a good idea.

Salisbury Watchman: Mt. Ulla township has many a kind heart in it. Fourteen plows, run by 14 neighbors and neighbors' teams, were to be seen in a widow's field one day last week. Mrs. Joshua Miller had lost her daughter and her son had burned his hands while trying to save her life. Therefore they plowed her fields. It is "God's country" where men act in that kindly way.

FARMERS AND OTHER PEOPLE.

"We have no patience with the claptrap that represents farmers as 'Ismaelites whose hands are against everybody, and everybody's hands against them.' They are a part of the body politic, and cannot be severed from the rest of their countrymen."

The above is from an editorial in the Newberne Daily Journal of a recent date. We are not disposed to find fault with or criticize the words of the Journal, for they are strictly true in every respect. But why does our contemporary feel called upon to defend the people engaged in agricultural pursuits? Almost every day we read something that prompts us to use about the same language. The sentence, "they are a part of the body politic, and cannot be severed from the rest of their countrymen," is the most significant part of the text. As the Journal says there are claptrap papers and individuals, too, who feel it their duty to be forever casting slurs on our best people—our farmers. When we say our best people we do not mean that there are no good people engaged in other occupations, but in a general way they are the best. True our farmers have made many mistakes. They have been too good natured. They have allowed other people to outstrip them

in the race of life. They have permitted corrupt politicians to lead them in their wild goose chases. They have been blinded by the oily tongued place hunters who have for years filled places of honor and trust without doing anything for the promotion of our agricultural interest. In the South the cry has been "send me to Congress and I will wipe out the tariff and the internal revenue; in the North it has been "send us to Congress and we will settle the hash of those secession, red-eyed rebels down South." We say frankly that thus far our representatives have been true to their promises. Our Southern representatives have given the tariff and the revenue "Hail Columbia;" the bloody shirts, with Senator Ingalls in front, have managed to consume some more time discussing "Southern outrages," while in addition to all this what time they have not taken up in nonsensical arguments, which children might have decided in a few words, has been devoted to legislation in favor of national banks, railroads, manufacturers, public buildings, etc., which are of no value to the farmers and much of it a positive injury.

Now, it would not be fair to say that all of our representatives, either North or South, are responsible for this State of affairs. Doubtless many of them have honestly tried to accomplish better things. But somebody is responsible, as any well-informed man can see that they exist.

As a natural result the prosperity of nearly all other classes is without precedent. The Congressmen and Senators who have become millionaires in a few years on a salary of \$5,000 per year (which is hardly sufficient to pay their annual expenses if they live extravagantly) are, of course, included among the prosperous people.

Another result of it all is that the railroads can charge more for hauling a bushel of corn a few hundred miles in a few hours than the poor farmer can get for it after working hard for 12 months to raise the corn. Combines can be made and the people robbed of thousands and millions of dollars. Yet our representatives use their stentorian lungs in crying out against the tariff, the revenue and the negro question and a few other outrageous stereotyped hobbies. Admit that these things need attention, but are we any better off? The negro is as black as ever, the tariff as oppressive and the revenue as odious. Again we ask, what has been done to benefit our people? We lay down the proposition that for every dollar worth of legislation in favor of the farmers, five dollars worth have been against them. It is true that a great many pensions have been granted, but it is not possible that all who draw pensions are justly entitled to them. The time has been when our farmers were the money lenders, but now they are the borrowers. Now fortunes are made in a day and lost in a day. But somebody not in the farming business is benefited in either case.

But after all the farmers "are a part of the body politic" and they are getting their eyes open to such an extent that in a few years more the change will be so great that the public will realize the fact that they constitute a large per cent. of our population and that tariff and revenue oratory alone will not suffice when they are in trouble.

MARTIN COUNTY IN LINE.

MR. EDITOR:—At the regular meeting of the Martin County Farmers' Alliance the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, We, the members of the Martin County Farmers' Alliance, do believe that the present depression in all branches of agriculture to be the result of unjust legislation; therefore be it

Resolved, That we will support no man for either branch of the State legislature or for the National House of Representatives who will not pledge himself to use his best efforts in favor of any measure or measures that promise to advance the welfare of the farmers.

Resolved, That we do heartily concur with the St. Louis Convention in the action taken relative to the Sub-Treasury system, and do request our Senators and Representatives in Congress to use all honorable means to secure its passage and enactment into a law.

Resolved, That we hereby tender our thanks to our Senator, the Hon. Z. B. Vance, for what he has done in introducing what is known as the Sub-Treasury bill.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER for publication and one to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

C. C. FAGAN, Sec'y.

The Review and Weekly, published at Reidsville, are slashing ink at each other. Webster's Weekly calls the Review "our poetic, poetical, post-praising, paripratic printer-producing contemporary," and the Review refers to the Weekly as "Webster's One Horse One Dollar Weekly." That is ugly, boys, don't do it any more.